

HONORING THE CARROLL HIGH  
SCHOOL NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLAR FINALISTS

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with exceptional pride that I recognize Brian Bourcy, Colin Kantor, Patrick Liu, Conner O. Mitchell, Lauren Rutherford, Christian Shannon and Hannah Walcek, each of whom is a National Merit Scholar Finalist from Carroll Senior High School.

Every year, approximately 1.5 million high school students take the Preliminary SAT, which doubles as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The test is a preview to the SAT and covers reading, writing, and math. Students who do exceptionally well become competitive in the National Merit Scholarship Program. To be a National Merit Scholar semifinalist is a well-recognized achievement that tends to open many doors in a student's academic life. To become a finalist requires another level of application and assessment, and only 15,000 students nationwide (1% of the total entrants) reach this prestigious level.

I am so pleased to convey that seven students from Carroll Senior High have earned their way to become National Merit Scholar Finalists. Their accomplishment is truly a rare one and is a testament to their brilliance and hard work.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Brian Bourcy, Colin Kantor, Patrick Liu, Conner O. Mitchell, Lauren Rutherford, Christian Shannon and Hannah Walcek on their becoming National Merit Scholar Finalists.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF  
SANFORD WEBSTER

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary man, a revered Palo Alto, a loving husband, a devoted father, a proud soldier, an investor, risk taker, athlete, a lover of fun, a storyteller and generous philanthropist. Sanford (Sam) H. Webster embodies the best of what our community, the heart and home of Silicon Valley, is all about.

The life of Sam Webster is the saga of nearly a century of accomplishment. From West Point, to parenthood, to pistachios; from Wimbledon to World War II; from the Joint Chief's office to the golf course; from real estate investing, to tangerine growing, to basketball; to Miss Gamble's lovely benefactress and to countless recipients of his and Kim's extraordinary generosity. He has done it all with a smile, with a zest for life and a twinkle in his famous blue eyes. He is a grand gentleman and one I'm proud to honor today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Sam Webster's extraordinary military service to our nation. He served our country with distinction in the Army for 22

years after completing his education at the United States Military Academy, retiring with the rank of Colonel.

I recently contacted the Secretary of the Army on his behalf, asking that he be awarded the Legion of Merit. He was honored with the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant in 1958 because "he distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service as Deputy Chief, Combat Surveillance Department, United States Army Electronic Proving Ground, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, during the period 18 June 1954, to 30 April 1957." His efforts resulted in an effective Battlefield Surveillance capability for the 1956 Field Army through the use of drones.

In light of the extensive and pervasive use of drones for surveillance since Colonel Webster's Army service, I respectfully requested Secretary McHugh's review of the record to determine whether Colonel Webster can now be awarded the Legion of Merit. Having worked to correct an armed forces medal injustice many times, I know that the process can be unreasonably long. By acknowledging in this body the importance of Colonel Webster's work, we acknowledge in a most public and permanent way that his contributions to our nation's expertise at reconnaissance have saved thousands of lives, added to our ability to root out those who would do us harm, and added to our military arsenal. His brilliant work must never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel Sam Webster. While we cannot dispense medals, pin ribbons on lapels, nor convey military rank, we can recognize excellence, applaud honorable work, salute valor and stand in praise of a true American hero, Colonel Sam Webster. He has earned our respect and gratitude for all he has done to strengthen our country.

HONORING THE GOLDEN GATE  
BRIDGE

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge, a modern architectural marvel and a landmark that defines California and the West Coast. Since its opening on May 27, 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge has stood as a symbol of human potential—a triumph of ingenuity, creativity, and progressive vision that complements the beauty of our natural surroundings and enriches life in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Since the Gold Rush first brought American settlers to the San Francisco Bay Area, residents have been interested in the idea of linking the Bay Area with a bridge spanning the Golden Gate. A single span would bring together the northern and southern halves of the greatest natural port on the West Coast, easing transportation and spurring economic growth across Northern California. For years, though, the task was considered too costly and too complicated to realize.

By the 1920s, engineers had become more confident that technological advances made a fixed link feasible, and San Francisco City Engineer Michael O'Shaughnessy launched an

effort to make the proposal a reality. In 1921, Joseph Strauss—later the Chief Engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge—submitted his first designs. After they were made public, communities on both sides of the Golden Gate began lining up behind the plan. Under the leadership of Santa Rosa businessman Frank Doyle, a public coalition formed in Sonoma County with representatives from across the North Coast, all pushing for the Strauss design. In 1923, the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District Act, authored by Senator Frank Coombs of Napa, passed in the California Legislature. In 1924, Marin and San Francisco Counties submitted a joint application to the War Department for permission to build on the federally owned headlands at each end of the strait. Permission was granted by the end of that year.

In 1929, the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District met for the first time, with members from San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties. Strauss was named Chief Engineer, and the Oakland-based architect Irving Morrow was appointed to consult on the final plans. Morrow would become famous for crafting a design in harmony with the rugged coast, balancing graceful Art Deco features with strong lighting and powerful lines. Morrow was also responsible for convincing authorities to accept the radical choice of painting the entire Bridge in the now-famous international orange.

While the Great Depression deepened, work forged ahead. In 1930, casting aside fears that infrastructure was an unwise long-term investment, District voters overwhelmingly approved a bond measure using their own homes, ranches, and vineyards as collateral. By 1934, the first tower—the Marin tower—was complete. By 1936, both towers and the cable spinning were complete, and over 1,000 workers were employed in the construction. In April 1937, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Bridge was ready for pedestrian and vehicle traffic. The first to cross on foot was a young runner from Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley. The first to cross by car was none other than Santa Rosa's Frank Doyle, the business leader widely credited with uniting Northern Coast residents behind the endeavor.

In the 75 years since its opening, the Golden Gate Bridge has borne witness to millions of lives, and to many changes in the Bay Area. The Bridge is a crucial route to work and school, a magnet for global tourism, and a center for recreation that links two jewels in the federal park system. It is a demonstration of American labor and engineering. It is a theater for advocacy and protest. For many soldiers sailing into the Second World War, it was their last memory of home. For new Americans emigrating from Asia and the Pacific, it is their first welcome to a new future. The Golden Gate Bridge is more than a modern wonder of architecture and engineering—it is at the heart of what it means to live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge, and in thanking all those who have fought for, built, and stewarded the Bridge over the years. We also owe a special debt to the eleven workers who were killed and the many others who were injured in the course of the construction. The Bridge is a testament to their dedication and expertise,